

embodiments can be devised by those skilled in the art without departing from the scope of the invention. It is therefore intended that such variations be included within the scope of the following claims and their equivalents.

[0048] What is claimed is:

1. A method comprising:

receiving a first frame from a shared-communications channel wherein said first frame comprises:

- (i) a first basic service set identifier;
- (ii) a first internet protocol address; and
- (iii) a second internet protocol address;

passing said first frame based on said first basic service set identifier;

tagging said first frame with a tag that represents said first basic service set identifier; and

transmitting a second frame into said shared-communications channel wherein said second frame comprises:

- (i) a second basic service set identifier that is different from said first basic service set identifier;
- (ii) a third internet protocol address that is different from said first internet protocol address; and
- (iii) said second internet protocol address.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein said transmitting is performed in accordance with the IEEE 802.11 air interface protocol.

3. The method of claim 1 wherein said first basic service set identifier is the medium access control address of the wireless interface in an access point.

4. The method of claim 1 wherein said passing admits frames comprising an infrastructure basic service set identifier and frames comprising an independent basic service set identifier.

5. The method of claim 1 wherein said first frame comprises a user data block and said second frame comprises said user data block.

6. An apparatus comprising:

a receiver for receiving a first frame from a shared-communications channel wherein said first frame comprises:

- (i) a first basic service set identifier;
- (ii) a first internet protocol address; and
- (iii) a second internet protocol address;

a processor for:

- (i) passing said first frame based on said first basic service set identifier; and
- (ii) tagging said first frame with a tag that is representative of said first basic service set identifier;

a transmitter for transmitting a second frame into said shared-communications channel wherein said second frame comprises:

- (i) a second basic service set identifier that is different from said first basic service set identifier;
- (ii) a third internet protocol address that is different from said first internet protocol address; and
- (iii) said second internet protocol address.

7. The apparatus of claim 6 wherein said transmitter operates in accordance with the IEEE 802.11 air interface protocol.

8. The apparatus of claim 6 wherein said first basic service set identifier is the medium access control address of the wireless interface in an access point.

9. The apparatus of claim 6 wherein said passing admits frames comprising an infrastructure basic service set identifier and frames comprising an independent basic service set identifier.

10. The apparatus of claim 6 wherein said first frame comprises a user data block and said second frame comprises said user data block.

11. A method comprising:

receiving a first frame from a shared-communications channel wherein said first frame comprises:

- (i) a first basic service set identifier; and
- (ii) a first internet protocol address;

passing said first frame based on said first basic service set identifier;

translating said first internet protocol address to a second internet protocol address;

and

transmitting a second frame into said shared-communications channel wherein said second frame comprises:

- (i) a second basic service set identifier; and
- (ii) said second internet protocol address.

12. The method of claim 11 further comprising tagging said first frame with a tag that is representative of said first basic service set identifier after said passing.

13. The method of claim 11 wherein:

said first frame comprises a third internet protocol address and a user data block;
and

said second frame comprises said third internet protocol address and said user data block.

14. The method of claim 13 wherein said user data block is encrypted.

15. The method of claim 11 wherein said transmitting is performed in accordance with the IEEE 802.11 air interface protocol.

16. The method of claim 11 wherein said first basic service set identifier is the medium access control address of the wireless interface in an access point.

17. The method of claim 11 wherein said passing admits frames comprising an infrastructure basic service set identifier and frames comprising an independent basic service set identifier.

18. An apparatus comprising:

a receiver for receiving a first frame from a shared-communications channel wherein said first frame comprises:

(i) a first basic service set identifier; and

(ii) a first internet protocol address;

a first processor for passing said first frame through a basic service set identifier filter;

a second processor for translating said first internet protocol address to a second internet protocol address; and

a transmitter for transmitting a second frame into said shared-communications channel wherein said second frame comprises:

(i) a second basic service set identifier; and

(ii) said second internet protocol address.

19. The apparatus of claim 18 wherein said first processor is also for tagging said first frame with a tag that is representative of said first basic service set identifier.

20. The apparatus of claim 18 wherein:

said first frame comprises a third internet protocol address and a user data block;
and

said second frame comprises said third internet protocol address and said user data block.

21. The apparatus of claim 20 wherein said user data block is encrypted.

22. The apparatus of claim 18 wherein said transmitter operates in accordance with the IEEE 802.11 air interface protocol.

23. The apparatus of claim 18 wherein said first basic service set identifier is the medium access control address of the wireless interface in an access point.

24. The apparatus of claim 18 wherein said passing admits frames comprising an infrastructure basic service set identifier and frames comprising an independent basic service set identifier.